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State Forester



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY

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Dear Volunteer Fire Department:

The Virginia Department of Forestry (VDOF) is administering the Volunteer Fire Assistance (VFA) grant program this year. All grants are a 50-50 cash match grant. You can apply for an amount to purchase Fire Related items you need. No single item should cost more than \$5,000.00. The amounts awarded are dependent on scores and the number of applications received. There is no guarantee that you will be awarded the entire amount you have applied for. Payment is made on receipts returned. The match will only be up to 50% of the receipts but not exceeding the original approval amount.

We score the grants and place a high priority rating on grants for purchasing Wildland Personal Protective Equipment, Wildland Fire Fighting Tools, Communication Equipment, and/or Training Related Items this year. You can apply to buy other items; however, the safety of Virginia's wildland firefighters is a major priority of this grant program.

To apply, you'll need to fill out and mail in these forms for your VFA grant application: [Form 623](#), [Form AD-1048](#), Standard [Form 424B](#) and [Form W9](#). Please fill in all blanks on Form 623 with the best information you have. Incomplete forms or missing forms will not be scored and will not be eligible for a grant.

The following will help you complete Form 623:

- Population includes only your first-due area of response.
- Wildland urban interface communities are defined as those with 10 or more homes in a woodland setting.
- Number of dispatches are the totals for all of 2014 only.
- County, city, or public funds are monies allotted to Departments from local governments and generated mostly by taxation.
- Donations are money received from individuals (contributions) not from county tax money.

Your completed original grant application and federal forms must be postmarked no later than March 31, 2015. You will be notified if your Fire Department is awarded a grant.

The VDOF Resource Protection Division manages the grant from the Headquarters in Charlottesville. Contact Sandy Mills, 434.220.9036, with any questions or for details regarding your grant.

Sincerely,

Sandy Mills

Resource Protection Division

Mission: We Protect and Develop Healthy, Sustainable Forest Resources for Virginians.